

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEHRAN 10870 261349Z

43

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 MC-01 ACDA-05 OMB-01 AID-05 IGA-01

PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 RSC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-05 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SAM-01 SAB-01 L-02

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R 261250Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9555

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

CINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 10870

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SOPN, MASS, EG, IR

SUBJ: NEWSPAPER REPORT OF IRANIAN ARMS AID TO EGYPT

1. ON DECEMBER 26 POLCOUNS CALLED TO ATTENTION OF MFA AMERICAN AFFAIRS CHIEF HATEF UPI ITEM QUOTING BEIRUT NEWSPAPER AN NAHAR'S CLAIM THAT IRAN WOULD PROVIDE EGYPT WITH SEVERAL KINDS OF WEAPONS, INCLUDING MODERN RADAR NETWORK, AND WOULD TRAIN EGYPTIAN PILOTS TO FLY F-5'S. AFTER CHECKING WITH FONMIN KHALATBARY, HATEF PHONED BACK TO SAY STORY WAS NOT TRUE AND THAT IRAN WOULD "HONOR ITS OBLIGATIONS" NOT TO TRANSFER ARMS TO THIRD COUNTRIES ILLEGALLY. WHEN ASKED WHETHER GOI MIGHT BE PLANNING TO SUPPLY WEAPONS NOT COVERED BY THIRD-COUNTRY TRANSFER AGREEMENTS, HATEF REPLIED IRAN WAS NOT GOING TO GIVE ANY ARMS TO EGYPT AND THAT GENERAL AZHARI'S TRIP TO CAIRO HAD NOT BEEN RELATED TO ARMS SUPPLY.

2. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH WE HAVE NOT SEEN AN NAHAR ARTICLE, IT SEEMS PROBABLE TO US THAT AUTHOR USED OCCASION OF AZHARI VISIT TO WRITE SPECULATIVE PIECE WHICH WOULD SERVE ARAB INTERESTS BY DEMONSTRATING FURTHER ISOLATION OF ISRAEL FROM ITS ERST-
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PAGE 02 TEHRAN 10870 261349Z

WHILE FRIENDS. DURING SHAH'S FORTHCOMING VISIT TO EGYPT SUBJECT OF

MILITARY ASSISTANCE MAY COME UP, IF IT DOES, WE WOULD EXPECT HIM TO FEND OFF ANY REQUESTS FOR AID OF KIND LISTED IN AN NAHAR STORY. GOI HAS GONE TO GREAT PAINS RECELTY TO REFUTE IMPRESSION GIVEN IN "AL HAWADITH" INTERVIEW THAT IRAN HAD ABANDONED ITS MIDDLE-OF-ROAD POSTION ON ARAB/ISRAEL QUESTION (TEHRAN 10841, NOTAL).
MIKLOS

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: shawdg
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
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